

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCI-06 ACDA-19 L-03 AEC-11 CIAE-00

INR-10 IO-14 NSAE-00 NSC-07 RSC-01 FEA-02 DRC-01

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15

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R 011017Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9348

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 1219

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH, PO

SUBJ: US/PORTUGAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGREEMENT

REF: A) STATE 045165

B) STATE A-7849, SEPT. 14, 1973

SUMMARY: PORTUGUESE AUTHORITIES ANXIOUS TO MOVE TOWARD
INITIALING OF DRAFT ATOMIC ENERGY AGREEMENT; TEXT AS PER
REF A IS ACCEPTABLE TO GOP. FONMIN HAS PROMISED
COMMENT ON DRAFT NOTE SENT REF B WITHIN FEW DAYS.
EMBASSY ENVISAGES DIFFICULTIES IN DEMARCHE ON NPT
(REF A). EMBASSY PROPOSES USG ACCEPTANCE OF PORTUGUESE
PROPOSAL RE DRAFT TEXT BE PORTRAYED TO GOP AS
POLITICAL DECISION. END SUMMARY

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED US DESIRE TO PRESENT NOTE TO GOP
AS PER REF B WITH FONMIN OFFICIAL SILVA MARQUES, WHO
NOW HANDLING MATTER (VICE REINO) MARCH 28. SILVA MARQUES
STATED GOP NOT YET IN POSITION TO INDICATE WHETHER NOTE
WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE, BUT SAID MATTER BEING ACTIVELY
CONSIDERED AT HIGH LEVEL. HE PROMISED DEFINITIVE REPLY
"WITHIN A FEW DAYS." (FYI - NEITHER SILVA MARQUES NOR
EMBASSY CAN DETERMINE WHETHER DELAY ON NOTE QUESTIONIS
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DUE TO SUBSTANTIVE PROBLEMS OR BUREAUCRATIC ONES. IT

POSSIBLE THAT GOP IS TROUBLED BY PHRASE "THE SAFEGUARDS PROVIDED UNDER THE TRILATERAL AGREEMENT WILL VERIFY...." ON THE OTHER HAND, PROLONGED ABSENCE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY BOARD PRESIDENT KAULZA DE ARRIAGA IN FEBRUARY-MARCH, AND MARCH 16 CABINET SHAKEUP MAY BE REASONS FOR DELAY. CABINET CHANGES CREATED NEW POST OF SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENERGY AND INCORPORATED NUCLEAR ENERGY BOARD IN NEW SECRETARIAT. NAMED AS SECSTATE FOR ENERGY WAS COMMANDER SOEIRO DE BRITO, FORMER DEPUTY TO KAULZA AT RESEARCH BOARD, WHICH KAULZA STILL HEADS. THIS BUREAUCRATIC ANOMALY, IN VIEW OF EMBASSY AND SILVA MARQUES AND OTHER GOP OFFICIALS, UNLIKELY TO LAST LONG. END FYI)

2. SILVA MARQUES STATED THAT PORTUGUESE LANGUAGE TEXT WOULD BE IN HANDS OF PORTUGUESE EMBASSY WASHINGTON BY APRIL 3 OR 4, ALONG WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO ASK DEPARTMENT TO PROCEED WITH INITIALING OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEXT AS PART OF USG PROCEDURES SET FORTH PARA C OF REF B. SILVA MARQUES HOPES INITIALING CAN TAKE PLACE WITHOUT WAITING FOR DEPARTMENT TO REVIEW PORTUGUESE TEXT, AS DEADLINE FOR PROCEEDING WITH CONTRACT FOR MATERIALS IS APPROACHING FAST.

3. EMBASSY HAS DELAYED DEMARCHE MENTIONED PARA 4 REF A ON POSSIBLE GOP ADHERENCE TO NPT (LAST SUCH DEMARCHE TO CHAIRMAN, TWO YEARS AGO, GOT NOWHERE, AND IN COURSE OF LENGTHY MEETING BETWEEN EMBOFF AND SOEIRO DE BRITO TWO MONTHS AGO, LATTER MADE BITTER DENUNCIATION OF NPT ON BOTH TECHNICAL AND POLITICAL GROUNDS, ALONG LINES ALREADY FAMILIAR TO USG FROM TRADITIONAL FRENCH ARGUMENTATION.) HOWEVER, FOCUS OF EMBASSY CONCERN IS INSTRUCTION TO "NOTE THAT NPT ADHERENCE LIKELY TO BE A FACTOR IN FUTURE ACCESSIBILITY OF SOME SENSITIVE MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGY FROM NPT PARTIES." THIS STATEMENT MAY LEAD GOP TO CONCLUDE THAT USG'S CONCESSION ON WORDING OF ARTICLE XII IS MEANINGLESS. BASIS OF GOP INSISTENCE ON REWORDING OF ART. XII WAS TO GUARANTEE ACCESS TO SENSITIVE MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGY WITHOUT REGARD TO FUTURE MULTILATERAL DECISIONS. GOP OFFICIALS BELIEVE THIS BATTLE IS BEHIND THEM, AT LEAST SO FAR AS USG IS CONCERNED. INSTRUCTION
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MENTIONED ABOVE INDICATES OTHERWISE. WE WILL AWAIT DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS ON THIS POINT BEFORE MAKING DEMARCHE MENTIONED PARA 4 REFTEL.

4. SUBJECT TO RESOLUTION OF ISSUE MENTIONED IN PREVIOUS PARA, EMBASSY SUGGESTS USG SEEK GET MAXIMUM MILEAGE OUT OF OUR CONCESSION ON ARTICLE XII PARA C. WE SUGGEST THAT IN AZORES NEGOTIATIONS AND ELSEWHERE WE

PRESENT THIS AS MAJOR CONCESSION AND HIGH-LEVEL,
IMPORTANT POLITICAL DECISION BASED ON OVERALL STATE
OF USG-GOP RELATIONS.
SCOTT

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